GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5299
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002
LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR DOMESTIC AIRLINES
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need in the domestic civil aviation sector of level playing field for sharing non-operative revenues with other airlines as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 14, 2002 under the caption `Level playing field crucial for domestic airlines`;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allow level playing fields in the domestic aviation sector also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

a), b) and c) : The primary objective of most commercial arrangements is to compensate the Indian carriers from imbalances in operations such as unilateral operations, loss of revenue due to the traffic carried by foreign airlines to points beyond their home country etc. Since Air India is India`s primary international carrier enjoying the first right of refusal. They are also impacted most by such diversion of traffic, and therefore in most cases they have been designated to enter into the requisite commercial agreements. Indian Airlines is also allowed to have commercial agreements with foreign airlines wherever they are affected financially due to operation of foreign airlines.